

AMENDMENTS

In the Claims

Please cancel claim 48 without prejudice or disclaimer and amend the remaining claims as follows:

REMARKS

I. Status of Claims

Claims 29-48 are pending, claims 1-28 having been canceled in the preliminary amendment filed on June 5, 1997. Claims 46 and 47 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph as lacking an enabling disclosure. Claims 29-45 and 48 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102 as anticipated, or under 35 U.S.C. §103 as obvious, over Haynes *et al.* Claims 29-33, 41 and 48 are rejected under §102 and anticipated, or under §103 as obvious, over Takahashi *et al.* The specific grounds for rejection, and applicants response thereto, are set out in detail below.

PENDING CLAIMS

29. (Amended twice) A method for directly inhibiting HIV [infection of] entry into a cell comprising the step of contacting said cell with a composition comprising a peptide of 8 to 24 residues comprising the sequence RAFVTIGK (SEQ ID NO:5).

30. The method of claim 29, wherein said peptide is 8 residues in length.

31. The method of claim 29, wherein said peptide is 15 residues in length.

32. The method of claim 31, wherein said peptide comprises the sequence RIQRGPGRAFVTIGK (SEQ ID NO:1).

33. The method of claim 29, wherein said peptide is 24 amino acids in length.

34. The method of claim 33, wherein said peptide comprises the sequence NNTRKSIRIQRGPGRAFVTIGKIG (SEQ ID NO:3).

35. The method of claim 29, wherein said peptide is in the form of a multimer.

36. The method of claim 35, wherein said multimer comprises a single chain comprising repeating units of said peptide.

37. The method of claim 36, wherein said repeating units are bonded through one or two cysteine residues.

38. The method of claim 35, wherein said multimer comprises a spacer peptide to which multiple copies of said peptide are bonded.

39. The method of claim 38, wherein said spacer peptide comprises glycyl residues to which each of said multiple copies of said peptide are bonded.

40. The method of claim 38, wherein said spacer peptide forms a surfactant-like micelle.

41. The method of claim 29, wherein said composition is dispersed in a pharmaceutically acceptable aqueous medium.

42. The method of claim 29, wherein said composition is administered at a dosage range of between about 10 micrograms to about 500 milligrams.

43. The method of claim 40, wherein dosage range is about 50 micrograms to about 1 milligram.

44. The method of claim 41, wherein said dosage range is about 100 micrograms.

45. The method of claim 29, further comprising contacting said cell with said composition a second time.

46. The method of claim 29, wherein said cell is in a human subject.

47. The method of claim 46, wherein said contacting comprises injection of said composition.

48. (Canceled) A method for inhibiting entry of HIV into a cell comprising the step of contacting said cell with a peptide of 8 to 24 residues comprising the sequence RAFVTIGK (SEQ ID NO:5).